IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claim 44 as shown below. The pending claims are believed to be as follows:

1-43. (Cancelled)

44. (Currently amended) A test strip for analyzing an analyte comprising a flexible flat support on which one or several test fields are arranged next to one another, wherein said test fields carry one or several detection layers stacked on top of one another each detection layer including a reagent which provides a signal visibly detectable through the support layer in the presence of the analyte and wherein the detection layers are directly contacted by an overlay made of a spreading material comprising a porous flat structure impregnated with a wetting agent, wherein the wetting agent is N-oleoyl-sarcosinate, wherein the overlay comprises one or several flat overlay elements which are attached to the test strip in such a way that at least a part of their surface can move freely relative to the strip surface when the test strip is bent towards a side on which the overlay is located; and further wherein ~~the overlay comprises two~~ the parts of said overlay elements ~~whose parts~~ that can "move freely relative to the strip surface" face one another and overlap.

45. (Previously added) The test strip of claim 44 wherein the overlap covers two test fields.

46-60. (Cancelled)

61. (Previously amended) A test strip comprising a flexible flat support on which one or several test fields are arranged next to one another, wherein said test fields carry one or several detection layers stacked on top of one another, and wherein the test fields

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are covered two overlay elements whose parts overlap and which can move freely relative to the strip surface face one another when the test strip is bent towards a side on which the overlay is located, said overlay elements made of a spreading material comprising a porous flat structure impregnated with a wetting agent, wherein the wetting agent is N-oleoyl-sarcosinate.

      62. (Previously added) The test strip of claim 61 wherein the overlap covers two test fields.